**Export Oriented Yarn Mills**

*341. SHRI BALRAJ PASSI
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the foreign exchange earned by the export oriented yarn mills during the years 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more export oriented yarn mills; and

(c) if so, the places where these mills are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) According to the information reported by the 100% Export Oriented Yarn Units, yarn exports under the 100% EOU Scheme during the last three years have been as under:-

| *Year* | *Export (in Rs. Crores)* |
|---|---|
| 1988-89 | 17.15 |
| 1989-90 | 35.10 |
| 1990-91 (Provisional) | 37.74 |

(b) and (c). 100% Export Oriented units can be set up in locations of the choice of entrepreneurs subject to locational policy of the Government.

**Filling up of Vacant Posts of SCs/STs**

*342. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN
SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in various public undertakings, boards and other institutions under the administrative control of his Ministry;

(b) since when these posts are lying vacant; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts.

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Trade Fairs**

*343. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries which participated in the fairs organised by the Trade Fair Authority of India during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the number of the countries participating in these fairs is decreasing;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to attract more foreign countries to the trade fairs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). The number of countries which participated in fairs organised by Trade Fair Authority of India during the last three years is as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| 1989 | 74 countries |
| 1990 | 71 countries |
| 1991 | 63 countries |

The foreign participation in fairs in India during the last few years organised by TFAI has declined which could be attributable to:-

(a) A large number of countries have been passing through economic difficulty including limited availability of foreign exchange. This is likely to have affected participation in fairs.

(b) Number of trade fairs held worldwide has been increasing; as such, foreign participation in fairs by individual countries could have gone down due to availability of wider choice

(c) Uncertain political and low-and-order situation in India during the period 1989 and 1991

(d) The following measures will help to improve foreign participation in fairs in India:-

(i) Recent liberalisation introduced by the present Government for setting up industries, joint ventures and manufacturing base being published in foreign countries so as to motivate foreign companies to participate in fairs in India;

(ii) Enhancement of the special import fair quota for disposal in India of goods exhibited;

(iii) More interaction through the Indian Missions abroad and foreign Missions in India.

*[English]*

**Asian Development Bank Assistance to Orissa for Road Projects**

*344. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any negotiations were conducted with the Asian Development Bank for loan assistance for financing certain road projects in Central and State sectors in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of proposals received/contemplated to provide expressways in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After negotiations, the project of improvement to Rourkela-Sambalpur State Highway (164 km) at a preliminary cost of Rs. 80.00 crores has been included under the Second Asian Development Bank Highway Loan which has already been signed with the Bank.

(c) No such proposal has been received or is contemplated.

**Amendment of Evidence Act**

3598. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Loopholes in Evidence Act" published in the Times of India, Bombay on November 5, 1991;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring forward a legislation to amend the India Evidence Act; and

(c) if so, the time by which the legislation is likely to be brought forward?